

Please amend claims 1, 2 and 8 and add new claims 9-20 as follows:

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A container closure comprising:


a shell having a body attachable to a container around a container opening thereof, said shell having a shell opening in fluid communication with the container opening when said shell is attached to the container, wherein said shell includes a central stem, said shell opening is an annular opening surrounding said stem, an annular wall extending from said body and surrounding said annular opening, said stem attached to said annular wall;

a tip received on said shell movable between an open position and a closed position sealing said shell opening and an open position; and

a cover releasably attached to said shell, said cover including internally extending ribs engagable with said tip when said cover is attached to said shell.

2. (Amended) The container closure of claim 1 and wherein said shell further includes a cover-attaching member positioned on said stem, wherein said cover attaching member of said shell engages said cover to releasably attach said cover to said shell.

3. (Original) The container closure of claim 2 wherein said cover-attaching member is formed by a groove on said stem, said groove engaging said cover to releasably attach said cover to said shell.

4. (Original) The container closure of claim 3 wherein said ribs are radially positioned around an interior of said cover.

5. (Original) The container closure of claim 1 wherein said ribs are radially positioned around an interior of said cover.

6. (Original) The container closure of claim 1 wherein said cover includes a tamper-evident band removably attached to said cover.

7. (Original) The container closure of claim 6 wherein said cover further includes a top, a cylindrical side wall extending from said top, wherein said tamper-evident band

is formed by a lower portion of said cylindrical side wall and at least one projection extending radially inwardly of said side wall.

8. (Amended) A dust cover for a container closure having a shell attachable to a container around a container opening thereof and a tip received on said shell movable between a closed positioned sealing said shell opening and an open position, said dust cover comprising:

a top,

a cylindrical side wall extending from said top,

~~a~~ a shell engaging member for releasably attaching said cover to the shell, and

a plurality of tip engaging ribs extending inwardly from said sidewalls for engaging with the tip when said cover is attached to the shell.

9. (New) The dust cover of claim 8 wherein each said rib is attached to said top.

10. (New) The dust cover of claim 8 wherein each said rib has a curved inner face.

11. (New) The dust cover of claim 10 wherein each said rib has a beveled lower edge.

12. (New) The dust cover of claim 8 wherein each said rib extends from a position on said top adjacent said shell engaging member.

13. (New) The container closure of claim 1 wherein each said rib is attached to a top of said cover.

14. (New) The container closure of claim 1 wherein each said rib has a curved inner face.

15. (New) The container closure of claim 14 wherein each said rib has a beveled lower edge.

16. (New) The container closure of claim 1 wherein each said rib extends from a position on a top of said cover which is adjacent a cover-attaching member.

17. (New) A container closure comprising:

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a shell having a body attachable to a container around a container opening thereof, said shell having a shell opening in fluid communication with the container opening when said shell is attached to the container, wherein said shell includes a central stem, said shell opening is an annular opening surrounding said stem, an annular wall extending from said body and surrounding said annular opening, said stem attached to said annular wall;

a tip received on said shell movable between an open position and a closed position sealing said shell opening; and

a cover having a cover attaching member for releasably attaching said cover to said shell, said cover including internally extending ribs engagable with said tip when said cover is attached to said shell, whereby said ribs maintain proper alignment between said cover, said tip and said shell when said cover is attached to said shell preventing said closure from leaking in the closed position.

18. (New) The container closure of claim 17 wherein said cover attaching member is formed by a groove on said stem, said groove engaging said cover to releasably attach said cover to said shell.

19. (New) The container closure of claim 18 wherein said ribs are radially positioned around an interior of said cover.

20. (New) The container closure of claim 19 wherein said cover includes a tamper-evident band removably attached to said cover.
